istic diseases and malgnancie* involved in each individual case.

However, under the AIDS control programme a number of measures are being taken to prevent it* further spread. These 1. ll diagnostic centres for detection *ot* AIDS have been set up in the country. In addition, 4 referral centres have also been established where higher level diagnostic facilities for AIDS are available.

1. Restrictions have been imposed for import of blood and blood products without AIDS clearance certificate.

J. All the State Health authorities/ hospitals/STD clinics have been alerted to look for AIDS.

4. Ali the blood banks have been in structed to screen the professional blood donors.

5. An the State Health authories have been advised to ensure strict steiiliza-tion practices in hospitals and clinics and to use pre-sterilised disposable syringes and needles as far as possible.

6. Guidelines have been sent to all the State Health authorities for health care personnel.

7. All the mass media channels have been involved in educating the people on AIDS, its nature, transmission and prevention.

Transmission of the AIDS virus

393. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have made aay enquiry regarding the cases of transmission of the AIDS virus to the six wome* in Madras who have been declared seriopositive for its anti-bodies;

(b> whether it i» a fact that contaminated needles are responsible for transraitt-•iug the AIDS virus;

(# what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to improve the standard of sterlisation of needles in hospitals; and

(d) what suitable measures have been taken to mak$_e$ available sufficient quantity of disposable syringes and disposable needles in the hospitals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It i$_s$ a fact that contaminated need les can transmit th$_e$ AIDS virus.

(c) and (d) All the State HeaLh authoritieg have been advised to ensure strict sterilisation practices in hospitals and clinics and to use pre-sterilised dispos able syringes and needles as far as possible, which are easily available ia a.ieuuats quantities.

AIDS detection centres

394. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY; Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some par ticular areas have been affected by the AIDS disease in the country;

(b) if so, which are those areas in diffe rent States and what action has been taken to eradicate the disease;

(c) whether AIDS detection centres have been set up in various States and whether State Government of Andhra Pradesh have forwarded any proposal in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (MINISTRY OF HEALTH (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE); (a) and (b) Yes. 18 cases of confirmed AIDS infection have been detected as under:—

Tamil Nadu	..	15
Maharashtra	..	2
Andhra Pradesh	..	1

Out of these cases, 2 have developed AIDS disease afld 1 devloped AIDS related complex.

A nationwide control programme has been initiated and the important steps under thia programme taken so far for tbe prcven&fc of the disease arc;

(1) Restrictions hav$_e$ been imposed on import of blood and blood products without AIDS clearance certificate,

(2) AU the state health authorities! hospitals/STD clinics haT© boea altrte* to look for AIDS.

(3) All the blood bank* have been I instructed to screen the professional blood donors.

(4) All the state health authorities Iare been advised to ensure strict sterilisation practices in hospitals and clinics and to use pre-sterilised disposable syringes and needles as far as possible.

(5) Guidelines have been sent to all the stat.? health authorities for health care personnel.

(6) All the mass channels have been involved in educating the people on AIDS, its nature, transmission nnd prevention .

(c) and (d) At present 12 surveillance centres are functioning in different States. ln addition, 4 referral centres for AIDS "where sophisticated diagnostic facilities arc available, have also been established. 17 more centres have been identified and are bring established.

ln Andhra Pradesh, 3 centres are being established, at Vishakhapatnam, Tirupati and Hyderabad. In addition to these centres, one laboratory is also being provided •with screening kits.

Medicines for AIDS patients

395. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAV-RAO JADHAV: SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:

Will the Ministtr of HEALTH AND' FAMILY WELFARE be pleased ta state: #

(a) What is the total number of AIDS patients detected so far in different parts ■cf the country;

(b) what medicines have been made available to fight the disease; and

(c) what special measures have been taken to prevent the spread of the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): fa) 18 cases of confirmed AIDS infection have been detected in the country so far.

(b) There is no specific medicine for AIDS cases so far. At present, the treat ment of AIDS patients consists of specific treatment for varieties of opportunistic diseases and malignancies involved in each individual case.

(c) The following measures are being taken under the AIDS Control Pro gramme to prevent its spread:-

1. Diagnostic centres for detection of AIDS have been set up. In addition, 4 referral centres have also been established where higher level diagnostic facilities for AIDS are available.

2. Restrictions have been imposed for import of blood and blood products without AIDS clearance certificate.

3. All the State health authorities|hos-pitals|STD clinics have been alerted *to* look for AIDS.

4. All the blood banks have been ins-tructed to screen the professional blood donors.

5. All the State health authorities have been advised to ensure strict sterilization practices in hospitals and clinics and to use pre-sterilised disposable syringes and needles as far a possible.

6. Guidelines have been sent to all the State health authorities for health care personnel.

7. All the mass media channels have been involved in educating the people on AIDS, its nature, transmission and pre vention.

Committees on private participation ia road construction

396. SHRr SUKOMAL SEN; Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to I state: